

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

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LA BAJADA HISTORIC TRAILS AND ROADS

HAER NM-15

(El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro)

(National Old Trails Highway)

(US 66)

Approximately .5 miles NE of north terminus of NM State Highway

16

La Bajada

Santa Fe

New Mexico

INDEX TO BLACK AND WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

Martin Stupich, photographer, 2008

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| NM-15-1 | Single pole utility tower, from the ZB 46KV transmission line (1929), sitting atop La Bajada Mesa. This line follows NM 1/National Old Trails Road and Route 66 into Santa Fe. View east. |
| NM-15-2 | Foundation ruins atop La Bajada Mesa, just east of the crest. Possibly a rest stop during the NM 1/National Old Trails Road period (1909-26). View east. |
| NM-15-3 | Detail of double pole utility tower at the edge of the mesa. National Old Trails Road right-of-way crosses in foreground over a dry laid basaltic rock retaining wall. View south. |
| NM-15-4 | View from the top of La Bajada escarpment, facing west. Double pole utility tower, the columnar basalt cliff, National Old Trails Road switchbacks, and 1860s military wagon road can be seen from left to right, with Sandia Peak in the distance. |
| NM-15-5 | View from top switchback, with oblique view of retaining wall, double utility tower, and cliff side in the distance. Tripod at far right, facing south. |
| NM-15-6 | Detail of basaltic rock retaining walls just below top switchback. 500 ft long retaining wall at left, scale figure in distance, view south. |

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| NM-15-7 | View down National Old Trails Highway, showing second and third switchbacks, and road heading along cliff side. Wagon trail at right, view south. |
| NM-15-8 | View north between second and third switchback. Notice tight eighteen foot diameter turn in foreground. |
| NM-15-9 | Detail of third switchback in foreground, cliff in shadow in background, facing south. |
| NM-15-10 | View of blind curve along National Old Trails Road, about 1,000 feet from top, facing north. |
| NM-15-11 | Stone "bridge" over a former culvert. Wagon road can be seen to the left. Transmission line in the distance. Facing north. |
| NM-15-12 | View of fourth major turn 1/4 way down. Note former Route 66 right of way at far right crossing La Majada Mesa in distance, facing south. |
| NM-15-13 | Route 66-era Walden Tourist Camp sits at the base of La Bajada, across the Santa Fe River, seen from old Route 66. View facing north. |
| NM-15-14 | This "boot-shaped" switchback is one of two nearly identical switchbacks on the lower section of the combined NM 1/Route 66 route. Facing south. |
| NM-15-15 | La Bajada petroglyph, facing north (no specific location details are provided in this document). |
| NM-15-16 | Blast site along the southernmost section of the Route 66 alignment (1926), along Santa Fe River canyon. View facing south. |
| NM-15-17 | Just up the hill from the blast site is this possible alignment of El Camino Real or former wagon road, view west. |
| NM-15-18 | Swale built up of dry-laid basaltic rock along the Route 66 section. Sandia Peak in distance, facing south. |

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NM-15-19

Rock billboards on the basaltic cliff along the Route 66 alignment, ca. 1926. The sign on the left is for "La Bajada Service Shop" (faint "da" visible), "Santa Fe Camp" in the center, and a petroglyph at far right. View facing northwest.